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(19)



(71) I, EDWARD CHARLES MAYLED, a citizen of Canada, of 133 Duke of Kent, Pointe Claire, Quebec, Canada, do hereby declare the invention, for which I pray that a patent may be granted to me, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:—

The present invention relates to a package, and in particular, to a package having a tray and a sleeve holding components on the tray, and means for releasably retaining the sleeve to the components in the tray.

Similar packages having a tray with a plurality of components and an open-ended sleeve enclosing the components in the tray have been developed. However, it is necessary in such packages to either have flaps closing the open end of the package or a strap passing about the open end of the tray, preventing the tray and the components from being accidentally slid from the sleeve.

It is an object of the present invention to provide an improved package including a releasable locking means between the tray and the sleeve cooperating to hold the tray and its components within the sleeve when the sleeve surround the components and tray.

According to the present invention there is provided a package comprising a tray of relatively rigid material, the tray being adapted to receive a plurality of components to be contained therein, an open-ended sleeve having dimensions sufficient only to accommodate the tray and the components when located thereon, to allow the tray and components to be slidden within the sleeve, the sleeve having a principal axis through the open ends, a recess provided in one of the walls of the tray adjacent to a corresponding wall of the sleeve, the recess providing opposing surfaces normal to the principal axis, and a tab cut out in the sleeve and folded over a predetermined hinge line parallel to the principal axis such that is resiliently biased,

said folded tab being adapted to engage in the recess provided in the tray so as to lock the tray within the recess.

Invention will now be described by way of example only with particular reference to the accompanying drawings wherein:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a package partly disassembled, illustrating a feature of the present invention and

Figure 2 is a fragmentary enlarged cross-section showing a detail of the feature of the present invention.

Referring now to the drawing, there is shown a tray 10 with relatively rigid side walls 14 and 16. The tray can be made of expanded moulded polystyrene material having a bottom wall 12 as well as a top wall 18, on which are provided cylindrical recesses 20. A plurality of elongate cylindrical containers 22 are located in the cylindrical recesses 20 and are the particular components to be contained in the present package.

A recess 24 is provided in the bottom wall 12 and has abrupt shallow surfaces 26 and 28 normal to the longitudinal axis of the sleeve 30. The package includes a sleeve 30 made from a single blank and adapted to be automatically assembled about the tray 10 and the containers 22. The sleeve 30 has walls 32, 34, 36 and 38. The height of the walls 32 and 36 corresponds to the sum of the height dimensions of the cylindrical containers 22 and the depth of the tray 10 so that the tray and containers 22 just fit within the sleeve 30. In the wall 32, as shown in Figure 1, there is provided a cut-away tab 40 which can fold back along the juncture or fold line 42 against the bottom wall 38.

When the package is assembled, the tab 40 is normally engaged within the recess 24 and locks the tray, that is, prevents the tray from being pulled out through the open ends of the sleeve. In order to open the package, the sleeve may be torn away therefrom or the tab 40 must be depressed. In order to insert

the tray and components within the sleeve,
it is necessary to depress the tab 40 while
the tray is being laid thereover and then the tab
is released to let it pop up into the recess 24.

5 WHAT WE CLAIM IS:—

1. A package comprising a tray of
relatively rigid material, the tray being adapted
to receive a plurality of components to be
contained therein, and open-ended sleeve having
10 dimensions sufficient only to accommodate the
tray and the components when located thereon
to allow the tray and components to be
slidden within the sleeve, the sleeve having a
principal axis through the open ends, a recess
15 provided in one of the walls of the tray
adjacent a corresponding wall of the sleeve,

the recess providing opposing surfaces normal
to the principal axis, and a tab cut out in the
sleeve and folded over a predetermined hinge
line parallel to the principal axis such that it is 20
resiliently biased, said folded tab being adapted
to engage in the recess provided in the tray so
as to lock the tray within the recess.

2. A package substantially as hereinbefore
described and as shown in the accompanying 25
drawing.

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